

Serial No. 10/760,483

Docket No. 1186.1031

REMARKS**INTRODUCTION:**

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 13, 17 and 22 have been amended. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 7-17 and 19-25 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

CHANGES TO THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification has been reviewed in response to this Office Action. Changes have been made to the specification only to place it in preferred and better U.S. form for issuance and to resolve the Examiner's objections raised in the Office Action. No new matter has been added.

On page 19, in the paragraphs beginning at lines 1, 4 and 9, the terminology "hydrogen radical-containing polymer compound" has been corrected to recite —hydroxyl group-containing polymer compound—. It is respectfully submitted that this typographical error is clear because the materials listed on page 19, lines 5-8 of the specification, for example, all include a hydroxyl group (i.e., an -OH group).

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:

In the Office Action, at pages 2-3, numbered paragraph 2, claims 1-3, 7-16, 22 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for the reasons set forth therein. This rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to change the terminology "the aluminum oxide layer" to — the vapor deposition layer— and to change the phrase "a substrate" to the phrase — a film substrate" for clarity. Thus, claim 1 is now submitted to be in allowable form under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Since claims 2-3 and 7-16 depend from amended claim 1, claims 2-3 and 7-16 are submitted to be allowable for at least the reasons that amended claim 1 is allowable (see further amendments to claim 13 below to put claim 13 into allowable form under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph).

Claims 13 and 22 have been amended to correct the typographical error. Hence, amended claims 13 and 22 now recite — further comprising a composite covering layer formed on said vapor-deposited film, ~~consisting essentially of~~ by using at least one material selected from the group consisting of a ~~hydrogen radical~~ hydroxyl group-containing polymer compound, a metal alkoxide, a ~~hydrolyzate~~ hydrolyzate of the metal alkoxide thereof and a ~~the hydroxyl group-containing polymer compound thereof~~ hydroxyl group-containing polymer compound thereof. — in accordance with the cited materials listed on page

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19, lines 5-8 of the specification, for example, which all include a hydroxyl group (i.e., an -OH group) . Further, for clarity, the terminology "hydrolyzate" has been amended to recite — hydrolysate of the metal alkoxide—. Hence, claims 13 and 22 are now submitted to be in allowable form under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

As suggested by the Examiner, claim 17 has been amended to change the phrase "a substrate" to the phrase — a film substrate— for clarity. Thus, amended claim 17 is now submitted to be in allowable form under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

ALLOWED CLAIMS:

In the Office Action, at page 3, numbered paragraph 3, claims 17, 19-21 and 25 were allowed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful review and allowance of claims 17, 19-21 and 25.

CLAIM OBJECTED TO:

In the Office Action, at page 3, numbered paragraph 4, claim 24 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 22 has been amended and is now submitted to be in allowable form. Since claim 24 depends from amended claim 22, claim 24 is submitted to be in allowable form for at least the reasons claim 22 is in allowable form.

CLAIMS THAT WOULD BE ALLOWABLE:

In the Office Action, at page 3, numbered paragraph 5, claims 1-3, 7-16, 22 and 23 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Independent claims 1 and 17 have been amended, and are now submitted to be in allowable form under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Since claims 2-3, 7-16 22 and 23 depend from amended claims 1 and 17, respectively, claims 1 and 17 are submitted to be allowable under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph for at least the reasons that amended claims 1 and 17 are allowable under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further

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outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: January 27, 2006 By: Darleen J. Stockley
Darleen J. Stockley
Registration No. 34,257

1201 New York Avenue, N.W.
Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to: Commissioner for Patents,

P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on January 27, 2006

for STAAS & HALSEY

By: Darleen J. Stockley

Date January 27, 2006